CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1359
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STATEMENT OF THE GROUP OF 21 ON THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE 1995 SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

1. The Group of 21 recalls that at the outset of the 1995 session, the Conference on Disarmament had provisionally adopted its 1994 agenda for 1995, pending agreement on the review of the agenda. The Conference had also agreed, without prejudice to any future decisions on the organizational framework of the other items, to begin its work immediately on a "Nuclear Test Ban".

2. During 1995, considerable and encouraging progress has been made in the negotiations relating to the CTBT. These negotiations must be concluded as soon as possible in 1996.

3. Unfortunately, the CD was unable to establish other Ad Hoc Committees, as well as appoint Special Coordinators on the review of the agenda, expansion of CD's membership, and CD's improved and effective functioning, in spite of extensive efforts made by the G-21.

4. The Group of 21 recalls that in the discussions within the CD it has consistently pressed for the inclusion of an independent item on the CD agenda and commencement of negotiations on the item on nuclear disarmament which has been accorded the highest priority by the international community.

5. The Group of 21 requests that at the outset of the CD's 1996 session, the Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban be re-established in order to conclude CTBT negotiations by the middle of the session. The Group also urges the establishment, on a priority basis, of an Ad Hoc Committee on Nuclear Disarmament in the beginning of 1996, and a balanced consideration of all other outstanding issues on the CD's agenda.

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